

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 198621
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ABF-01 /014 R

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APPROVED BY EUR/CAN:JHROUSE,JR.
A/BF/OAG-JHSOUTHERLAND
-----115407 201755Z /50

R 200138Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, CA

SUBJECT: GAO VISIT TO OTTAWA, SEPTEMBER 19-30, 1977

1. THE U.S. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE IS PERFORMING A REVIEW OF U.S. PARTICIPATION AND COORDINATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THIS REVIEW THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE STAFF WOULD LIKE TO VISIT CANADA DURING THE WEEKS OF SEPTEMBER 19 AND 26 TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON THE CANADIAN SYSTEM USED TO SUPPORT THE COMMISSION.

2. ROBERT ROGERS, DONALD WARSING AND LINDA KOONTZ OF GAO DETROIT OFFICE ARE CONDUCTING STAFF STUDY AND WILL BE MAKING THE VISIT. IF THE EMBASSY HAS NO OBJECTION, THE STAFF WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING TOPICS WITH THE BELOW LISTED CANADIAN OFFICIALS OR OTHER AVAILABLE OFFICIALS KNOWLEDGEABLE ON THESE TOPICS, AND REQUESTS EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN COORDINATION WITH EXTAFF IN DEVELOPING SCHEDULE OF APPOINTMENTS. GAO WOULD WELCOME EMBASSY/ EXTAFF SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS. EMBASSY
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OFFICER IS, OF COURSE, WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS.

(A) THE CANADIAN SYSTEM FOR FUNDING IJC ACTIVITIES AND HOW IT OPERATES:

JOHN SHARPE, EXTAFF DIRECTOR OF USA DIVISION AND HIS STAFF MEMBERS FAMILIAR WITH THE SUBJECT.

(B) THE CANADIAN SYSTEM FOR STAFFING IJC ACTIVITIES AND HOW IT OPERATES: JOHN SHARPE, EXTAFF; MR. PETER WILSON, ENVIRONMENT CANADA; MR. R.H. JOHNSON, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT; MR. NORTON H. JAMES, DIRECTOR, WATER PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT BRANCH, INLAND WATER DIRECTORATE.

(C) THE CANADIAN IJC SECTION--SUPPORT PROVIDED TO IT, ITS STAFF SIZE, AND THE FUNCTIONS ITS STAFF PERFORMS: JOHN SHARPE, AND CANADIAN IJC OFFICIALS, IF NOT INAPPROPRIATE.

(D) GAO IS INTERVIEWING U.S. CHAIRMEN/MEMBERS OF FOLLOWING IJC BOARDS TO OBTAIN PRACTICAL PICTURE OF HOW IJC TECHNICAL STUDIES RECEIVE FUNDING AND STAFF SUPPORT FROM U.S. AGENCIES. GAO WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS WITH CANADIAN COUNTERPARTS (CHAIRMAN, IF AVAILABLE) OF SAME BOARDS

INTERFACE WITH GOC AGENCIES IN ORDER TO DEVELOP COMPARATIVE PICTURE OF EXPERIENCE IN BOTH COUNTRIES. BOARDS UNDER REVIEW ARE:

INTERNATIONAL GARRISON DIVERSION STUDY BOARD
INTERNATIONAL CHAMPLAIN - RICHELIEU BOARD
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON WATER QUALITY IN THE SAINT JOHN RIVER
INTERNATIONAL REFERENCE GROUP ON LAND USE ACTIVITIES
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INTERNATIONAL REFERENCE GROUP ON UPPER LAKES POLLUTION
INTERNATIONAL GREAT LAKES LEVELS BOARD
INTERNATIONAL ROSEAU RIVER ENGINEERING BOARD
INTERNATIONAL DIVERSION IN THE GREAT LAKES BASIN BOARD
INTERNATIONAL LAKE ERIE REGULATION BOARD
INTERNATIONAL MICHIGAN-ONTARIO AIR POLLUTION BOARD
3. GAO STAFF PLANS TO MAKE ITS INITIAL VISIT TO OTTAWA ON SEPTEMBER 18 AND WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR MAKING HOTEL RESERVATIONS FOR TWO-WEEK PERIOD. IF INTERVIEWS CAN BE COMPLETED EARLIER, WILL BE SHORTENED.

4. PLEASE ADVISE NAME OF EMBASSY CONTROL OFFICER AND HOTEL.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, GAO AUDITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE198621
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JHROUSE, JR.:CLJ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770301-1067
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770840/aaaabhye.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 07b98457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1539432
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GAO VISIT TO OTTAWA, SEPTEMBER 19-30, 1977
TAGS: EGEN, CA, US
To: OTTAWA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/07b98457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009